

We are very happy to hear that Brady Wiseman is taking steps to end the possibility of tire burning in the beautiful state of Montana by introducing HB 408.

I am very sorry that other obligations prevent me from attending this hearing today. We are involved in finding markets for our future products and are attending long awaited meetings with potential buyers.

The Tire Depot has been planning for expansion into producing and marketing crumb rubber products for several years. We feel the time is right to proceed with this plan. We have proven that we have as much product coming in as most of the crumb rubber plants in the U.S. therefore supply is no longer a concern as long as Holcim is denied that ability to burn the tires. We would like to proceed with this venture to help our environment. However the fear of losing our tire flow to Holcim after we purchase 3 million dollars in tire processing equipment would not be good for anyone. This would financially ruin Tire Depot and tire recycling in Montana forever; and Montanans would be living with the toxins spewing from Holcim's plant. This is the only reason we are not already recycling all of Montana's scrap tires in an environmentally friendly process that does not involve tire burning.

Our proposed facility will employ new individuals in several fields of experience, enhancing the local economy. This facility will offer opportunities to other companies such as Jore Corp., Wadsworth Manufacturing and many other Montana companies to join us in using this recycled product to develop more 'made in Montana' products. The molded rubber market has unlimited potential and unlimited products which can be manufactured from scrap tires. This is a reality!

Did you know that if the Montana DOT took the specs for asphalt rubber roads from Alberta, Canada and applied them to Montana's new roads and repairing old roads, we could use every scrap tire in the State of Montana and not have enough crumb rubber? Think about it, it is in our power to convince the State to use these scrap tires to benefit everyone! The Tire Depot plans on producing several products from Montana's tires including but not limited to:

- Horse arena footing
- School playground material
- Tire mulch, both black and dyed
- Recover and sell tire wire and steel
- Feed stock for molded products
- Civil engineering projects of all kinds

Hopefully, this helps in making the right decisions.

Sincerely,  
Vern Reum  
Tire Depot